

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAR 05 2006

Karen B. Tripp
Attorney-at-Law
P.O. Box 1301
Houston, Texas 77251-1301

(713) 658-9323 - Telephone
(713) 658-9410 - Facsimile

FAX

DATE: 3/5/06 Our Ref.: 10/681,979

TO: Examiner Philip C. Tucker

CO.: USPTO Art Unit 1712

FAX #: 571 273 8300 PHONE #: _____

FROM: Karen Tripp

RE: Response to Non-Final Office Action

NUMBER OF PAGES: 18 (including coversheet)

The information contained in this facsimile message is attorney privileged and confidential information intended for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this fax in error, please immediately notify us by telephone, and return the original message to us at the above address via U.S. Postal Service.

MAR 05 2006

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/881,979	
	Filing Date	October 9, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Carl Joseph Thaeumitz	
	Art Unit	1712	
	Examiner Name	TUCKER, PHILIP C.	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	17	Attorney Docket Number	HALB:023D1

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Karen B. Tripp, Attorney at Law		
Signature	<i>Karen B. Tripp</i>		
Printed name	Karen B. Tripp		
Date	March 5, 2006	Reg. No.	30,452

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING				
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:				
Signature	<i>Karen B. Tripp</i>		Date	March 5, 2006
Typed or printed name	Karen B. Tripp			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

MAR 05 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Examiner: TUCKER, PHILIP C.
Carl Joseph Thacmlitz) Art Unit: 1712
Serial No.: 10/681,979)
Filed: October 9, 2003)
For: Electrically Conductive)
Oil-Based Mud)

Certificate of Facsimile Transmission
571 273 8300I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and
Trademark Office on the date indicated below.Mar 5, 2006
DateKaren B. Tripp
Karen B. Tripp

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE
TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 14, 2005

Dear Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed December 14, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below.

- **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper;
- **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper; and
- **Conclusion** begins on page 14 of this paper.

No fee is believed due for this amendment and no extension of time is believed needed for this response. However, the Commissioner is requested to grant any extension of time determined to be due and is authorized to charge the fee for same and any other fees that may be due for this application (including any fees determined to be due for the amendment) (except the issue fee) to undersigned's deposit account, 50-0807. If the account lacks sufficient funds, the fee may be charged to the undersigned's credit (or debit) card.

Please amend the application as follows: